



North Carolina Department of Correction

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Beverly Eaves Perdue
Governor

Alvin W. Keller, Jr.
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Marc Basnight
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Senator Charlie S. Dannelly
Senator Linda Garrou
Senator Eleanor Kinnaird
Senator John J. Snow, Jr.
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Representative Margaret M. Jeffus
Representative Jimmy L. Love, Sr.
Representative Henry M. Michaux, Jr.
Representative Joe P. Tolson
Representative Douglas Yongue

FROM: Jennie L. Lancaster, Chief Deputy Secretary

RE: Reimburse Counties for Housing and Extraordinary Medical Costs
for inmates, Parolees, and Post-Release Supervisees Awaiting Transfer to
State Prison System [Section 19.3 - Session Law 2009-451]

DATE: October 11, 2010

Pursuant to Section 19.3 - Session Law 2009-451 (Senate Bill 897) the Department of Correction is to report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Committees, and the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of funds to reimburse counties for prisoners awaiting transfer to the state prison system and on its progress in reducing jail backlog. N.C.G.S. §148-29 authorizes the Department to pay \$40 per day to counties for persons awaiting transfer to the state prison system.

The Department incurred \$2,948,840 for the first quarter of FY2010-2011 in backlog expenditures for inmates awaiting transfer to prison. To bring this into perspective, this first quarter total expenditures nearly equals the total jail backlog for ALL of FY2008-2009 at \$3M. The FY2009-2010 jail backlog expenditures totaled \$9.6M. If the expenditures continue at the current first quarter total, the Department can expect the FY2010-2011 jail backlog expenditures to total around \$11.8M.



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The largest percentage of the current jail backlog is felon offenders. The backlog of these offenders is a result of insufficient medium custody bed space in the Division of Prisons. The additional medium custody beds that are scheduled to come on line this fiscal year will be utilized to reduce this backlog.

Department of Correction staff members are available if further information is requested.

JLL:SHP:jbk

cc: Aaron Gallagher
John Poteat
Douglas Holbrook
Kristine Leggett
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General Assembly Legislative Library